

MAYOR
DAVID MARTIN

CHIEF OF POLICE
JONATHAN FONTNEAU



STAMFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT
805 BEDFORD STREET
STAMFORD, CT 06901-1194
OFFICE: (203) 977-4681 FAX: (203) 977-5583

A regular meeting of the Stamford Police Commission was held on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 5:00pm at Stamford Police Headquarters.

Present at the meeting were Commissioners Abbazia, Figueroa, Palmer, Thomas and Lyons. Chief Fontneau, Assistant Chief Wuennemann, Lt. Cooney, Sgt. Devanney.

Commissioner Abbazia called the meeting to order at 5:02pm.

Review of Minutes

Commissioner Thomas accepted the minutes with the following change, Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion Commissioner Palmer made to hire 4 new recruits and one alternate, Commissioner Palmer seconded it with the change and all were in favor. Commissioner Figueroa abstained.

Appeal by Candidate Mr. Pittman. Mr. Pittman requested Executive Session.

Commissioner Thomas made the motion to go into Executive Session at 5:04pm and Commissioner Palmer seconded it.

Commissioner Abbazia came out of Executive Session at 6:45pm to continue with regular meeting. Mr. Pittman withdrew his appeal.

Good Conduct by Officers:

Assistant Chief Wuennemann stated that we had a couple of very busy weeks. Took quite a few handguns off the streets of Stamford. Officer Byxbee and his recruit Officer Reynolds had a foot pursuit which led to a home invasion and the suspect ditched the gun. Sgt. Perrotta came and cordoned off the site and we found the gun. The suspect was arrested for narcotics, a gun and home invasion. Officer Dogali working with his K-9 Bobbi came upon a group of juveniles acting suspicious around a car, stopped the car and this led to the solving of 'boat load' of car break ins. Five just that night.

Commissioner Awards

None

Comments from the Public

None

Administration and Operating

Chief Fontneau reported for BCI unit: Investigated a murder for hire, who was dealing with an undercover but thought he was someone whom he could hire. When the man came through with the money – we came through with the cuffs! Officer Chen which is a personnel matter, resigned. Investigated an incident that happened at one of the hotels. A Middle Eastern male was taking pictures of a hotel in Stamford which houses Hassidic Jews on the weekends. We came to resolve the situation and found that he was working with the hotel. We had a 22 year old female who called police saying a Hispanic male attempted to abduct her as she walking in the area of Lafayette Street and Crystal. Officer found the car and arrested the man. We had a strong arm robbery at Rite Aid across the street. We put out a divert video and were able to make an identification and resolution on this case. We had a suspect carrying a 45 and he shot 5 rounds into 20 Spruce Street. Put out a divert video on that and were able to secure a perpetrator. We had more shots fired at 28 Perry Street that were fired into the Friendship House luckily no victims were there. Patrol responded to 11 Rose Street on a report of a sexual assault by a next door neighbor. The man is not in jail. We had a 33 year old female overdose. We also arrested a young man on a gun arrest and he is also a suspect in a homicide from a couple years ago. We had quite a bit to do in Property Crimes served 13 search warrants and made 8 arrests. Financial Crimes allocated 14 search warrants, served 7 warrants and made 7 arrests. Planet Pizza was burglarized and did a divert video on that – still waiting for some answers on that. Officer Pompa did a great job this month and completed an 8 month investigation into numerous car larcenies. It turns out that young men were coming from out of town – from Waterbury – and breaking into cars and using credit cards up in the Waterbury and Hartford area. As a result of Officer Pompa's tenacious effort he came up with 119 counts of car theft. We arrested a Mr. Barnett who was a home health care aid that committed numerous accounts of fraud on the elderly. A male he was caring for lost in excess of \$26,000. We also had embezzlement where we found a young man who was able to download a mobile deposit application on his phone which allowed him to double deposit his 20 payroll checks and steal over \$14,000. Great job by Officer Stempien. We had a home invasion where an ex-boyfriend came to the house and sexually assaulted his ex-girlfriend by breaking down the door. And we also arrested a young lady for falsely reporting an incident that her ex-boyfriend kidnapped her and put her in a car and assaulted her. Found out that the young man wasn't even in the country.

Youth Bureau and SVU – had a lot of domestic calls. The Youth Bureau had 75 calls last month, 51 arrests, 8 sexual assault investigations. One of which was a 16 year old that was sexually abusing his 6 ½ year old half-sister. Our School Resource Officers were busy with arrest of juveniles smoking marijuana at the high school and Officer Butler did a tremendous job. Delivery people were delivering Christmas packages to the front steps of houses and gentlemen were coming along on their bicycles and taking the packages. Officer Butler made 3 arrests on that.

Traffic Squad was real busy this December. I will give you a breakdown for the year: 838 speeding violations, 615 traffic control stops with violations, 254 distracted driving, and 25 operating under the influence. There were 3 fatalities, including 1 pedestrian and 1 motorcycle, none of which were alcohol related. 25 investigations were started by our Traffic Enforcement including 6 department vehicle accidents involving 7 department vehicles.

Narcotics and Organized Crime Unit had 506 arrests this year, they seized a lot of money \$177,000 in cash, \$17,000 in crack, \$39,000 in cocaine, \$259,000 in marijuana, \$38,000 worth of heroin, \$22,000 in prescription pills.

Our hiring for the year has been 13 males, 4 females, 10 white, 5 black and 2 Hispanics

Commissioner Abbazia asked about the hiring for those who have retired, such as Sgt., Officers, etc. HR does not have a valid test for Captain's position. We have no active Captains List. HR is negotiating a test for the Police Department and Fire Department. The City is holding up the promoting of one Sgt. position.

Personnel Issues

None

Old/New Business:

Commissioner Abbazia asked about the new building project. We were to have a meeting but the architect had to cancel.

Commissioner Palmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:05pm seconded by Commissioner Figueroa. All were in favor.

Submitted,

Timothy Abbazia

Timothy Abbazia
Chairman